

From Necessity to Opportunity to Passion

The Birth of Nature's Transport

Driving her routine route to the hospital where she worked as an RN in the critical care unit Angie Dix watched the trucks as she passed by. She sat wondering where they were coming from, going to, and what they were hauling. As a curiosity, in her spare time she would research different aspects of the trucking industry. That curiosity grew when the necessity of a larger income was needed.

Raising her children as a single parent she needed to look at finding the resources to pay for their education. She knew then that trucking was going to be a part of her life. "My job as a parent is to make sure that my children are prepared. It is good to have them see me at work, how I work, and where the money comes from." While she was still working as an RN she started taking private lessons in order to receive her CDL. The gentleman that was giving her private lessons told Angie about his late wife that he had also taught. His late wife had also worked as an RN in the critical care unit at the exact same hospital. Angie knew then that she was headed in the right direction.

In the beginning she had no other choice but to bring her children on the road with her. "As a result of my children being with me they too became a part of the business. My oldest son, Mitch, would be on the cal-

culator, figuring rates while I was on the phone." Driving her 1998 Volvo with a 1997 Tempte trailer, she would drive during the

week and continue to work at the hospital on the weekends.

Being new to the industry she had not built up the connections for steady work. "I knew that I had a lot to prove and I felt like being professional, consistent, and trustworthy was the way that I could create those relationships." Angie would sleep in the truck on site so that she could be first in line to pick up her load of grain. At first she didn't know if they were going to take her seriously, but she was always there to

prove them wrong. "At first I was treated as a novelty because I was a woman and they wanted to see me actually do the work." While she was the on the road, not only was she driving, sleeping, and living trucking she was also making business decisions and unloading the freight. "We females in a male dominated industry have to prove ourselves even more than our male counterparts." The relationships that she has built along her journey are a testament to her commitment to the industry.

The opportunity of the trucking industry soon became her passion. "You never forget the feeling the first time you get called back by a customer to haul freight; it's a sense of accomplishment." That accomplishment



Angie Dix, Owner, Nature's Transport

became Nature's Transport. "It's the people that work together that make the company what it is." Angie and the rest of the Nature's Transport team have built a reputation that is recognized as a solid company that works individually with every client based on a fair rate. This responsibility has stemmed from her earlier days as a nurse and has transitioned into one of the foundations of the company. "Nursing was being responsible for the health of individual lives, trucking demands that same commitment and responsibly. I am in a similar position with people's safety and livelihood's, except now these people have become a part of my family."

Nature's Transport continuously expands every year. Initially the company started out hauling local agricultural commodities using hoppers, and now does re-

gional along with long haul runs with all types of trailers and freight. Nature's Transport has also grown from a transportation company to the expansion of a brokerage, Nature's Brokerage. "With the expansion of the brokerage, it makes our company a more well rounded alternative with the capability of handling even larger contracts."

The success of Nature's Transport is due in part to Angie Dix's outlook on the company, "I hold a unique position, where I need to do anything from washing the trucks, sales, driving, and business decisions. All aspects are involved for the business to run successfully. I also like to keep the mentality that everyone's job is more important than mine." Success is an achievement that demands continuous maintenance and that is what Nature's Transport has built its foundation on.